

A-Z library @ Occupy Boston
Meeting, December 10, 2011
Community Change, Boston

Attendees: Meghan, Frances, Marcus, Stacie, TerraNova, Rebecca, Nicole, Kristin, Heather (notes)

We shared our feelings and thoughts about the past few days and a bit about how we think the removal of the encampment will affect Occupy Boston, what challenges and opportunities it provides us to be away from Dewey Square.

Discussed where the books are – who has what and are they okay to stay there

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AqfwfscvVE6ldFF3VTZLc0VBNzgtSmtPR1AyRGtFYkE>

Okay to stay where they are?

Kristin – ok for now

Frances – ok

Heather – ok, also coordinating retrieving books from Betsy in Natick who volunteered to take some stuff for us on Thursday, but who was not previously working with A-Z

Space available with TerraNova, Nicole, Heather M. Contact them if you need a place for A-Z library items. You can use the library list if you don't have their contact info.

Next meeting Wednesday 6:30, location: meet at south station?

Points of Information

There is a woman from the Phoenix something about a zine about occupy. Kristin interested. Probably a good idea to at least talk to Alana about this as she has experience with zine creation and a large network of other zinesters and zine librarians.

Rebecca replied to person from UMass. Short term or long term storage. She would wait for our queue if we want assistance. There is strong feeling about institutional repositories that we need to consider. Maybe we want to be picky about where it goes, access, etc.

Heather will create a short statement for the GA. Say what we talked about at this meeting, what we're going to do, and when our next meeting is. Announcement that the catalog is online

Agenda building – Topics for upcoming meetings:

What's next for us?

Report backs on research for next steps

Communication strategies

Be conscious of us not disappearing, without a fixed location

Communication within Occupy Boston

1. Continue to make presentations and announcements at GA's
2. Try more communication with other working groups – so they know we're still there.

Communication/outreach to others outside of OB

Ways to communicate with others outside the movement about the A-Z library, Occupy Boston, and of course, the issues related to the movement. How to share what we do

Twitter discussion? – is this a good time to fire up the Twitter account for the library? If we're going mobile it might be good to tweet about where we are going to be or what events we are holding. Much harder to keep up with us without a static location.

Other Activities

1. Continue to show up at Occupy Boston events with books, have some kind of library presence. Find elements that could make for good research.
2. Go to BPL, Occupy loves the public library. Find cool subject headings inside the library. Cheat sheet for books inside the library. Finding aid. Get the library to have an occupy list of reading materials.

Being present at libraries is a way to advocate for them. "Every library is an Occupy Library"
Ask "Do you have a library card?" If so, these might be of interest

3. Occupy Boston cheat sheet in general. OWS had some good ones. The newest statement from OB was really articulate.

Archiving

Archive includes: stuff in bin labeled archives, six binders of organizational records. Finding aid (currently in a google doc) for ephemera and archives, can continue to add to this as we accumulate things for the archive.

1. Where the archive might be housed in the future
Consult archives models from other social movements including Dyke March. Look at mission statement and policies

Until we decide: Make very neutral responses to people/organizations who offer to house the collection. If it's in email to the library list, copy the list on your reply so we know that someone has responded.

Also decide, because we are in Occupy Boston, if we should go through the entire proposal for where we go process, or limit to an announcements. We are experts in this field and . If we give it to them, are we making a donation to make sure that it's processed soon. Does that repository have the resources.

If we donate the collection, will they continue to grow the collection or would we. In a way, us growing it is more relevant than them.

Would we give them books, ephemera and some records, or the whole thing? (They would weed however they want to.)

2. Identify community organizations that might be able to house part or all of the archive.
(Something else to research).
3. Potentially archiving email? – issues associated with this in terms of redacting names, limiting access
4. Archiving tweets and email. What can we learn from LOC?

Online updates

December 1 is pretty well covered (news articles), has a couple from eviction day, Stacie has targeted some names of reporters who have been following us that she can share. Nicole will continue to update.

Boston Occupier has a website with new stuff on it.

How will occupy decide to use the wiki space going forward? If it goes mobile, there might be other ways to use the wiki.

Online is a bigger deal when you don't have a physical space.

Stats –

a little late in the game for usage stats, but we have ref stats, and the ability to generate circ stats

Programs?